

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 26 (cancelled)

27. (new) A slow release formulation including a biocompatible anionic polysaccharide material containing glucuronic acid in a polymer chain of the polysaccharide material.
28. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 27 wherein at least 5% of the basic structural units of the polysaccharide are glucuronic acid.
29. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 27 wherein the polysaccharide material is polyanhydroglucuronic acid, biocompatible salts thereof, copolymers thereof, or a biocompatible intermolecular complex thereof.
30. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 29 wherein the biocompatible intermolecular polymer complex is a complex of:

an anionic component comprising a linear or branched polysaccharide chain containing glucuronic acid; and

a non protein cationic component comprising a linear or branched natural, semi-synthetic or synthetic oligomer or polymer.

31. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein at least 5% of the basic structural units of the anionic component are glucuronic acid.
32. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component contains nitrogen that either carries a positive charge or wherein the positive charge is induced by contact with the polysaccharidic anionic component.
33. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 32 wherein the cationic component is selected from acrylamide derivatives, methacrylamide derivatives and copolymers thereof.
34. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 33 wherein the cationic component is selected from polyacrylamide, copolymer of hydroxyethylmethacrylate and hydroxypropylmethacrylamide, copolymers of acrylamide, butylacrylate, maleinanhydride and methylmethacrylate.
35. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component is a cationised natural polysaccharide.
36. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 35 wherein the polysaccharide is a starch, cellulose or gum.
37. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 36 wherein the gum is guar gum hydroxypropyltrimmonium chloride.
38. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component is a synthetic or semi-synthetic polyamino acid.
39. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component is polylysine, polyarginine, or α , β -poly-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-DL-aspartamide).

40. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component is a synthetic anti-fibrinolytic.
41. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 40 wherein the anti-fibrinolytic is a hexadimethrindibromide (polybren).
42. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component is a natural or semi-synthetic peptide.
43. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 42 wherein the peptide is a protamine, gelatine, fibrinopeptide, or derivatives thereof.
44. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component is an aminoglucan or derivatives thereof.
45. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 44 wherein the aminoglucan is fractionated chitin or its de-acetylated derivative chitosan.
46. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 44 wherein the aminoglucan is of microbial origin or is isolated from the shells of arthropods such as crabs.
47. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the anionic component is polyanhydroglucuronic acid, or biocompatible salts, or copolymers thereof, or their combination.
48. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 29 wherein the polyanhydroglucuronic acid and salts thereof contain in their polymeric chain from 8 to 30 percent by weight of carboxyl groups, wherein at least 80 percent by weight of said carboxyl groups are of the uronic type, at most 5 percent by weight of said carboxyl groups are carbonyl groups, and at most 0.5 percent by weight of said carboxyl groups are bound nitrogen.

49. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 48 wherein the polyanhydroglucuronic acid and salts thereof contain in their polymeric chain at most 0.2 percent by weight of bound nitrogen.
50. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 48 wherein the molecular mass of the polymeric chain of the anionic component is from 1×10^3 to 3×10^5 Daltons.
51. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 50 wherein the molecular mass of the polymeric chain of the anionic component is from 5×10^3 to 1.5×10^5 Daltons.
52. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 48 wherein the content of carboxyl groups is in the range of from 12 to 26 percent by weight, at least 95 percent of these groups being of the uronic type.
53. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 48 wherein the anionic component contains at most 1 percent by weight of carbonyl groups.
54. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 48 wherein the carbonyl groups are intra- and intermolecular 2,6 and 3,6 hemiacetals, 2,4-hemialdals and C2-C3 aldehydes.
55. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component is gelatin.
56. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 30 wherein the cationic component is chitosan.
57. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 27 including at least one biocompatible biologically active substance.

58. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 27 including at least one biologically acceptable adjuvant.
59. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 27 in a form for oral administration.
60. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 27 in the form of a tablet, pellet, capsule, granule, or microsphere.
61. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 29 wherein the polyanhydroglucuronic acid or biocompatible salts thereof are in particle form having a size of from 0.1 to 100 μ m.
62. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 29 wherein the polyanhydroglucuronic acid or biocompatible salts thereof are made up of fibers of from 5 to 30 μ m in diameter and up to 30mm in length.
63. (new) The formulation as claimed in claim 29 wherein the polyanhydroglucuronic acid is a stable microdispersed or microfibrillar polyanhydroglucuronic acid, biocompatible salt or copolymer thereof.
64. (new) The formulation claimed in claim 30 wherein the anionic component is microdispersed or microfibrillar polyanhydroglucuronic acid or biocompatible salts or copolymers thereof.